

Supplemental Materials

Committee on Academic and Workforce Success

AGENDA ITEM V-C (2)

Consideration of adopting the staff recommendation to the Committee relating to the request from University of Houston for a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree with a major in Medicine

RECOMMENDATION: Approval with recommendations

Rationale:

The University of Houston (UH) proposes to offer a program leading to the MD degree beginning in fall 2020. The proposed program would be initially housed in a new building on the main campus in Houston, near the Texas Medical Center and would require students to complete 158 semester credit hours (SCH). The institution proposes to progressively increase its class size in the first five years. The inaugural and second class would each enroll 30 students, the program would increase enrollment to 60 students in each entering class for years three and four, and the program would increase to an entering class of 120 students in year five.

The UH proposed MD program's focus would be the development of physicians who would be predisposed to select primary care medicine and provide care and treatment to the state's underserved, including urban inner-city and rural populations. The proposed program would accomplish this through its curriculum and experiential learning opportunities, which would focus on primary care. The proposed program would also emphasize and focus recruitment efforts on students from underrepresented groups, building on UH's diverse student body. The institution's proposal states within the program's first ten years of operation that it has two goals: 1) 50 percent of its graduates select to practice primary care, and 2) 50 percent of its graduates are from underrepresented minorities.

UH would seek special item and formula funding from the Texas Legislature to support the proposed program. State funding is estimated to support 30 percent of the program's costs with the remaining funds coming from student tuition and fees, reallocated institutional funds, and charitable contributions.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: UH commits to aggressively pursue funds to provide scholarships and/or loan repayment to achieve its goal of having 50 percent of its students from under-represented populations.

Recommendation 2: UH will provide documentation of hiring 20 additional core faculty through the submission of letters of intent, curricula vitae, and provide a list of courses to be taught prior to August 2020.

University of Houston (Accountability Peer Group: Emerging Research Institutions, Sector: Public Universities)

Completion Measures		Institution	Sector
<i>Graduation Rate</i>	Master's 5-Year	88.6%	77.2%
	Doctoral 10-Year	63.1%	60.4%
<i>Status of Recently Approved Doctoral Programs</i>	The institution has met its projected enrollments for all new doctoral program(s) approved in the last five years: Recently Approved Doctoral Programs: EdD in Curriculum and Instruction (2017) (new program/no data) PhD in Petroleum Engineering (2015) (projected 14, enrolled 25) PhD in Geosensing Systems Engineering and Sciences (2015) (projected 14, enrolled 15) PhD in Higher Education and Leadership Studies (2014) (projected 28, enrolled 23) PhD in Curriculum and Instruction (2014) (projected 49, enrolled 43) PhD in Hospitality Management (2014) (projected 19, enrolled 12) The institution has met its resource commitments for new doctoral program(s) approved in the last five years:	Yes	No <u>N/A</u>
		Yes	No <u>N/A</u>

Proposed Program:

UH proposes to offer an MD program beginning in fall 2020 with an incoming class of 30 students at the main campus in Houston. The proposed program would require students to complete courses in the scientific foundations of medicine, followed by clinical clerkships. UH estimates that the proposed MD program would require 158 SCH, including 134 hours of required course work and 24 hours of prescribed electives/electives, which is comparable to other Texas medical programs. Requirements would not vary for students entering with a master's degree versus a bachelor's degree.

UH has strong related and supporting programs and offers the state's only public Optometry program. The proposed MD program would build on the institution's strong foundation in the sciences and professional health programs. UH has a strong track record of employment for graduates of its Optometry, Pharmacy, and PhD Pharmacology programs. Graduates are employed in either academia or in their particular health field.

National and state job projections for physicians show increasing demand for their services over the next 10 to 15 years, with particular need for primary care doctors in rural areas of the state, which are historically underserved. Since 2004, the number of students entering Texas medical schools increased 52 percent, from 1,346 to 2,052. From fall 2012 to fall 2017, an additional 292 first-year medical students entered Texas medical schools.

UH has seven core faculty and 37 existing support faculty in place, with plans to hire an additional 20 core faculty by Year 1 and increase its core faculty to 46 by Year 5. The institution was able to identify support faculty from its existing health-related and science programs to teach core courses in the proposed program. UH would provide administration, facilities, faculty, and expertise from its existing resources. UH has designated existing facilities in place to accommodate the proposed program's labs, faculty, and students. The institution will pursue

national accreditation through the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).

UH provided clear and comprehensive plans for clerkships, and offered specific plans to develop graduate medical education positions (GME) that satisfy statutory requirements of Texas Education Code 61.05221. UH entered into an agreement with Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) Gulf Coast Division Health System, which has 15 acute care hospitals, 3 specialty hospitals, 10 free-standing emergency rooms, 10,000 active physicians, and more than 15,000 employees to develop more than 300 residency positions in the next few years. In March, HCA Gulf Coast Division hired a vice-president of GME to work with UH to develop residency positions. HCA Gulf Coast Division hospitals and clinics would serve the proposed program as its main clinical teaching facilities.

The institution also has signed Memorandum of Understanding agreements with four federally qualified health centers, with 15 clinic locations; St. Joseph Medical Center, a 792-bed full service general acute care hospital with two locations; Harris Health System, the safety net healthcare system owned and operated by Harris County, which also serves as a clinical setting for Baylor College of Medicine and The University of Texas Health Science Center Houston McGovern Medical School; and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Although student financial support is not a typical feature of medical schools, UH has made provisions for tuition assistance. A donation of approximately \$3.2 million would cover the four-year tuition and fees of the inaugural class of MD students. Additional fundraising efforts for student scholarships are underway, and are intended to offset tuition for future medical students.

The institution estimates that five-year costs would total \$119,245,522.

Existing Programs:

Texas has 12 medical schools that currently offer programs leading to either the MD or DO; 10 are located in public institutions of higher education and two are in private or independent higher education institutions. One additional institution was approved by the THECB in August 2018 with an anticipated start date of fall 2020. Ten institutions award the MD degree, and three award the DO degree.

State Funded Programs:

Baylor College of Medicine (Houston) (MD)

Texas A&M University Health Science Center, College of Medicine (College Station, Temple, Dallas, Round Rock, and Houston) (MD)

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, School of Medicine (Lubbock, Amarillo, and Odessa) (MD)

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso, Foster School of Medicine (MD)

The University of Texas at Austin, Dell Medical School (MD)

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, McGovern School of Medicine (MD)

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Long School of Medicine (MD)

The University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston, School of Medicine (MD)

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, School of Medicine (Edinburg, Harlingen, and Brownsville) (MD)

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, School of Medicine (Dallas) (MD)
 University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, Texas College of Osteopathic
 Medicine (DO)

Non-State Funded Programs:

University of the Incarnate Word, School of Osteopathic Medicine (San Antonio) (DO)
 Sam Houston State University, School of Medicine (Conroe) (DO)

UH’s proposed program would be the fifth MD program in the Houston area. Five MD programs are offered within a 60-minute drive of UH’s proposed program. These include Baylor College of Medicine (6.6 miles/20 minute drive), UTHSC Houston McGovern Medical School (6.6 miles/20 minute drive), UTMB Galveston (50 miles/1 hour drive), and Texas A&M University Health Science Center (Houston location) (4.6 miles/15 minute drive). Sam Houston’s recently approved DO program would be located in Conroe (45 miles/1 hour drive).

Houston’s population is one of the fastest growing in the nation. By 2020, Houston's population is expected to grow from 2.1 million to 2.5 million and by 2030, the city is projected to have 2.8 million residents. Houston is also home to the largest medical center in the world, the Texas Medical Center, which includes the largest children’s hospital and The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

<i>Start-Up Projections:</i>	<i>Yr. 1</i>	<i>Yr. 2</i>	<i>Yr. 3</i>	<i>Yr. 4</i>	<i>Yr. 5</i>
<i>Students Enrolled</i>	30	60	120	180	270
<i>Graduates</i>	0	0	0	30	30
<i>Avg. Financial Assistance</i> ¹	\$22,510	\$22,510	\$22,510	\$22,510	TBD
<i>Students Assisted</i>	30	30	30	30	-
<i>Core Faculty (FTE)</i>	37	41	47	50	56
<i>Total Costs</i>	\$19,849,022	\$21,460,410	\$24,052,577	\$25,660,325	\$28,223,187
<i>Total Funding</i>	\$19,849,022	\$21,460,410	\$24,052,577	\$25,660,325	\$28,223,187
<i>% From Formula Funding</i>	0	0	19%	27%	37%

¹ Student support covers tuition and fees for all four years of the inaugural class.

FIVE-YEAR COSTS	
Personnel	
Faculty	\$ 42,135,147
Program Administration	\$ 17,145,000
Clerical/Staff	\$ 11,765,000
Supplies and Materials	\$ 12,500,000
Other	
Institutional Dues	\$ 1,250,000
Insurance	\$ 5,000,000
Student Support ²	\$
General Operating Expenses	\$ 29,450,375
Total	\$ 119,245,522

FIVE-YEAR FUNDING	
Formula Funding (Years 3-5)	\$ 21,817,320
Other State Funding	
Special Item Request	\$ 20,000,000
Reallocation of Existing Resources	\$ 36,492,876
Federal Funding (In-Hand Only)	\$ 0
Tuition and Fees	\$ 14,144,460
Donations	\$ 18,181,818
Sponsored Research	\$ 2,800,196
Practice Plan Support	\$ 5,808,852
Total	\$ 119,245,522

² The institution secured a donation of \$3.2 million which will be used to cover the tuition and fees for the charter class; this is not a cost to the institution.

Major Commitments:

The institution will seek accreditation for its MD degree program from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education.

The institution will submit five Annual Progress Reports confirming institutional commitments and assessing the progress of program implementation.

Dr. Rex C. Peebles, Assistant Commissioner for Academic Quality and Workforce, will present this item and be available to answer questions.